



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

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FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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STATES RECEIVE NEARLY \$10 MILLION IN FEDERAL AID WILDLIFE FUNDS

Acting Secretary of the Interior Ralph A. Tudor announced today that \$9,796,800 has been apportioned to the 48 States for the restoration and development of their wildlife resources during fiscal year 1955.

This amount, which becomes available to the State game departments under the terms of the Pittman-Robertson Act, as administered by the Interior Department's Fish and Wildlife Service, represents a decrease of \$1,987,800 under last year's apportionment of \$11,784,600.

A total appropriation of \$10,266,258 includes sums set aside for wildlife in Alaska, Hawaii, and the Virgin Islands, and for administration of the Pittman-Robertson Act. This total represents the entire amount credited to the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Fund during the preceding fiscal year from the 11 percent Federal excise tax on sporting arms and ammunition levied on the manufacturers.

To obtain the Federal grants for wildlife projects, each State must contribute not less than 25 percent of project costs. On the basis of one dollar from the State for every three of Federal funds, \$13,062,400 will be available to the States for Pittman-Robertson wildlife work as selected and carried out by them.

Under this act, which went into effect in 1938, projects consisting of surveys, investigations, land acquisitions, land development for wildlife, and maintenance are submitted by the States to the Fish and Wildlife Service for review. Those projects which are found "substantial in character and design" are then approved on behalf of the Secretary of the Interior.

An amendment to the act in 1950 provided additional funds for the Territories of Alaska and Hawaii. For fiscal year 1955, both Territories will receive the maximum amounts, namely, Alaska \$75,000, and Hawaii, \$25,000. The Virgin Islands will receive \$10,000.

The formula used by the Fish and Wildlife Service in making State allotments is: one-half the sum to be apportioned is divided according to the ratio which the area of each State bears to the area of all the States. The remaining half is divided on the ratio of paid hunting license holders in each State to the total number of paid license holders in all States.

The Pittman-Robertson Act also provides that no State shall receive more than five percent, nor less than one-half of one percent, of the total amount available to all the States. On this basis, Michigan and Texas are given the maximum apportionment this year of \$489,840 each, while Connecticut, Delaware, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont receive the minimum of \$48,984 each.

Allotments for the 48 States for fiscal year 1955 are as follows:

Alabama	\$170,141	Nebraska	\$197,418
Arizona	213,812	Nevada	190,490
Arkansas	171,134	New Hampshire	48,984
California	461,048	New Jersey	65,654
Colorado	312,276	New Mexico	220,105
Connecticut	48,984	New York	403,195
Delaware	48,984	North Carolina	196,556
Florida	131,738	North Dakota	152,381
Georgia	226,764	Ohio	295,695
Idaho	197,987	Oklahoma	176,774
Illinois	265,766	Oregon	239,372
Indiana	203,557	Pennsylvania	375,395
Iowa	207,885	Rhode Island	48,984
Kansas	212,105	South Carolina	103,468
Kentucky	148,607	South Dakota	180,352
Louisiana	151,434	Tennessee	213,338
Maine	114,473	Texas	489,840
Maryland	64,166	Utah	188,196
Massachusetts	53,822	Vermont	48,984
Michigan	489,840	Virginia	185,955
Minnesota	320,084	Washington	262,668
Mississippi	138,299	West Virginia	126,455
Missouri	228,631	Wisconsin	296,798
Montana	299,657	Wyoming	208,549

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